

GROUNDS EQUIPMENT MECHANIC

Ref. Code: G-M-5

PREPARING TRUCKS AND TRACTORS FOR SNOW REMOVAL		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Checking lighting.	1a. Hands or head smashed by hood of vehicle.	1a. Make sure hood is all the way up before working under the hood.
	1b. Cuts.	1b. Handle broken lights carefully.
2. Checking faulty plow lift.	2a. Crushed by plow.	2a. Put jack stands under plow to prevent it from falling.
	2b. Splashed/sprayed with hydraulic fluid.	2b. Before removing cap, make sure hydraulic pressure is off by lowering plow all the way to relieve tension.
3. Attaching snow plow to truck or tractor.	3a. Back strain; overexertion from lifting heavy weight.	3a. Use prybars to lift plow. Know your weight lifting capacity and get help if needed. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight. Use two people to attach plow.
	3b. Splashed/squirted with hydraulic fluid.	3b. Inspect hydraulic lines and replace if necessary. Secure connections. Wear safety glasses.
	3c. Dismemberment; plow dropping on foot.	3c. Before attaching chain to plow, verify that no one is near controls. Make sure you communicate with the operator of the truck.
	3d. Struck by plow.	3d. Stand back a safe distance when operator is testing the plow.
	3e. Struck by spring-loaded arm when removing mower and attaching plow to Toro tractors.	3e. Put a block of wood between the frame and the spring-loaded arm to prevent the arm from flying up.
4. Putting hydraulic fluid in dump truck and changing hydraulic filter.	4. Crushed by dump truck bed.	4. Make sure bar is locked in place before working under bed of dump truck.

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5. Replacing bolts.	5. Cuts, scrapes, smashes, punctures, and pokes.	5. Keep tools in good condition. Inspect tools before use. Wear safety glasses. Work away from yourself. Use normal caution required for all hand tools.
6. Attaching sander to trucks or tractors.	6a. Back strain; overexertion.	6a. Use four people to lift sander onto hitch. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight.
	6b. Cuts.	6b. Wear gloves. Avoid putting hands near sharp edges.
7. Putting chains on tires.	7. Block falling off jack, causing tractor to crash down.	7. Make sure that the block is against a flat surface and that it is square on top of the jack and under the rear axle.
8. Storing or transporting compressed gas cylinders and oxygen/acetylene torch.	8a. Explosion of compressed gas.	8a. Do not allow cylinder valves or regulator assemblies to come into contact with grease, oil, or lubricants.
	8b. Rupture of cylinder if valve breaks off.	8b. Always install protective valve cover. Always secure cylinder to a stand or a wall.
9. Using oxygen/acetylene outfit.	9a. Regulator diaphragm rupturing when torch is turned on.	9a. Turn regulator adjusting screw counterclockwise to disengage plunger before turning on cylinder.
	9b. Acetylene explosion.	9b. Stand acetylene tank vertically before using.
	9c. Torch explosion.	9c. Install spark arrestors on torch and regulators.
	9d. Burning self.	9d. Wear gloves, overalls, and leather chaps. Always burn away from yourself.
	9e. Starting a fire.	9e. Remove flammable materials from work area. Always keep a fire extinguisher nearby and have a person stand by as a firewatch.
	9f. Burns from metal dripping on self.	9f. Do not reach to burn; always work level with torch.
	9g. Inhalation of fumes.	9g. Work in a well-ventilated area. Use exhaust fans and tubes for ventilation.

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	9h. Flash burn to eyes.	9h. Wear burning goggles to protect eyes.
	9i. Burning tar coating and/or galvanized coating creates a poisonous gas.	9i. Tar coating is sometimes wrapped in cardboard. Silver coating on pipes or plates indicated galvanized coating. If possible, use reciprocating saw to cut instead of burning with torch. If it is not possible to saw the pipe, ventilate the area well with incoming and outgoing air. Wear an air pack or a galvanized-rated respirator to avoid breathing fumes.
	9j. Buildup of acetylene from leaks.	9j. Check hose and connections for leaks and damage before using.
10. Welding.	10a. Getting flashed.	10a. Wear welding mask. Prevent reflected arc rays by changing angle at which you are working. If it is not possible to change your angle, put up a nonreflective board on the wall behind you. All non-essential personnel should leave the area.
	10b. Getting burned.	10b. Wear protective clothing: welding jacket, gloves, and welding mask.
	10c. Hot metal bouncing up into face or eyes.	10c. Wear goggles or safety glasses under welding mask.
	10d. Fire hazard from flying sparks.	10d. Remove flammable materials from manhole. Wear welding jacket. Have coworker fire watch with an extinguisher.
	10e. Inhalation of fumes.	10e. Use fans to ventilate area. When necessary use one fan to push air in and one to pull it out. Wear respirator.
	10f. Electric shock; electrocution.	10f. Wear dry clothing. Make especially sure that gloves are dry. Keep leads in good repair and out of standing water. Do not stand in standing water. Do not work when it is raining.

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	10g. Injury to others.	10g. Be aware of other workers or pedestrians in the area. Block welding arc with a screen.
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